

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~20th June, 1960COCOM Document No. 3716.35/6 BCOORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONITEM 1635 - ALLOYS9th June, 1960

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Documents 3716.35/2 to 5 and W.P. 1635/2.

1. The CHAIRMAN recalled that when the Committee had been approving the draft of the record of the last meeting devoted to this item (COCOM Document 3716.35/5) the German Delegate had expressed doubt as to whether the wording set out in paragraph 11 of that document would exclude from embargo glass to metal sealing alloys containing several of the non-ferrous products referred to. In order to answer the question put by the German Delegation, and in an endeavour to speed up the solution of the problem which the French Delegation had laid before the Committee, the Chairman proposed the following wording:

"Glass to metal sealing alloys or sealing alloy steels containing one or more of the following non-ferrous elements: cobalt, chromium or nickel, in percentages not exceeding 20, 30 and 50% respectively, are excepted from embargo coverage under Item 1635."

He invited Delegates to state their views on this wording.

2. The FRENCH Delegate stated that, in point of fact, in order to reply to the German Delegate's remarks, his own Delegation had contemplated the submission of a formula very close to the wording just suggested by the Chairman; he could therefore accept this proposal.

3. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that, while agreement in principle seemed to have been reached on the French Delegation's objective, which was the exclusion from embargo of glass to metal sealing alloys or alloy steels, nevertheless there remained certain divergencies between the views of the United States and French experts as to the composition of these alloys. The United States experts considered that glass to metal sealing alloys contained no chromium and only contained nickel in a proportion not exceeding 29%. The Delegate pointed out moreover that an alloy containing 50% or more nickel would fall under Item 1661 and not Item 1635. As a matter of fact, as far as was known to the United States experts who had been consulted, there only existed four types of glass to metal sealing alloys, each containing 17% of cobalt and 29% of nickel, the remainder being made up either of iron or of iron and a small manganese content of up to 1%. In order to solve the problem of excluding glass to metal sealing alloys, the United States Delegation proposed the following wording, which they considered to have the advantage of simplicity.

"Glass to metal sealing alloys or alloy steels containing 20% or less cobalt are excepted from embargo coverage under Item 1635."

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4. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate stated that United Kingdom technicians had knowledge of a glass to metal sealing alloy of United States manufacture which contained chromium. There also existed a glass to metal sealing alloy of United Kingdom manufacture which contained 17% of cobalt and 29% of nickel, which corresponded to the make-up referred to by the United States Delegate. The Delegate stated that his authorities had instructed him to submit an exclusion formula, but since it might take a little time to agree on a form of words, he wished the French authorities to know that the United Kingdom Delegation would raise no objection to the export of glass to metal sealing alloys of the Kovar type. Referring to the last paragraph of COCOM Document 3716.35/5, the Delegate proposed that Item 1635 should be studied prior to the next List Review, for the purely technical questions to which it gave rise could doubtless, with adequate preparation, be settled rapidly.
5. The BELGIAN Delegate stated that the wording proposed by the Chairman seemed excellent, but, as he had not received instructions as to the principle of a Note, he could only give an ad referendum agreement.
6. The NETHERLANDS Delegate said that he had received instructions to join the majority.
7. The FRENCH Delegate stated that he would be able to accept either the Chairman's wording or that of the United States, both of which achieved his Delegation's objective. The Delegate then cited a number of alloys containing iron, nickel and chromium, or iron, nickel and cobalt, or iron, nickel, chromium and cobalt, and recalled in conclusion that the Kovar alloy which was the French Delegation's main preoccupation at the moment contained cobalt, nickel and iron. The French Delegation were therefore prepared to accept the United States Delegation's proposal, provided that at a later date discussion were resumed in order to seek a formula which would clearly exclude all non-strategic glass to metal sealing alloys.
8. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate stated that all the texts proposed so far would involve difficulties for his authorities if they had to include them in the Export Control Order. The United Kingdom Delegation would not, however, raise any difficulties for any export of Kovar from France.
9. The GERMAN Delegate stated that, as he had not yet received instructions from his Government, he was not in a position to accept any exclusion formula. For this reason, and associating himself with his United Kingdom colleague, he suggested that if the French authorities had received export applications for which they wished to issue licences, it would be useful if they could be submitted to the Committee, who would not fail to deal with them rapidly.
10. The FRENCH Delegate thanked his United Kingdom and German colleagues for recalling the resources provided by the exceptions procedure. He stated however that, having come so close to a constructive solution accepted unanimously in principle at all events, it would be regrettable if the Committee should return to the statu quo ante because they could not succeed in establishing an acceptable form of words.
11. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate stated that the United Kingdom authorities were as anxious as any other Member Government to find a suitable form of words covering glass to metal sealing alloys. He then read out the different exclusion wordings proposed by the United Kingdom authorities:

Note to Item 1635:

"Glass to metal sealing alloys containing cobalt and chromium or nickel in percentages not exceeding 20, 30 and 44% respectively, are excepted from embargo coverage under Item 1635."

Corollary Note to Item 1661(b):

"Glass to metal sealing alloys containing up to 50% nickel are excluded from embargo coverage under Item 1661."

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The United Kingdom authorities would however prefer this exclusion to take the form of a sub-paragraph (iii) to be added to Item 1635(a)(2) accompanied by the addition to Item 1661(b) of a sub-paragraph (v), as shown below:

1635(a)(2)(iii):

"Glass to metal sealing alloys containing cobalt and chromium or nickel in percentages not exceeding 20, 30 and 44% respectively."

1661(b)(v):

"Glass to metal sealing alloys containing up to 50% nickel."

12. The FRENCH Delegate stated that he could also accept the United Kingdom proposal. In reply to a question from the United States Delegate, he confirmed the existence of a glass to metal sealing alloy containing more than 29% of nickel: this was the ASV alloy, which contained about 42% of nickel and from 4 to 6% of chromium.

13. After a further exchange of views, the COMMITTEE agreed to refer to Member Governments the three latest proposals, which had been grouped together in Working Paper 1635/2 so as to enable the competent departments to examine them without delay. The Committee agreed to hear Member Governments' views on these three proposals on the 20th June.

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